



February 2013
Volume 5, Issue 2

**Council President
Todd Gloria proudly
represents**

Balboa Park
Bankers Hill/Park West
Downtown
Golden Hill
Hillcrest
Middletown
Mission Hills
Normal Heights
North Park
Old Town
South Park
University Heights

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Moving San Diego Forward, Literally

By Council President Todd Gloria

On January 29, I was notified that I was appointed Chair of the Transportation Committee of the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG). I am grateful to SANDAG Chair Jack Dale for selecting me for this position, and am excited about tackling this critical issue from a regional perspective.

SANDAG serves as the regional planning agency for transportation and allocates millions of dollars each year in local, state, and federal funds for the region's transportation network. SANDAG develops the Regional Transportation Plan to implement a long-range vision for buses, trolleys, streetcars, rail, highways, major streets, bicycle travel, walking, goods movement, and airport services.

As a member of the Transportation Committee for the past four years, I am well aware of the transportation-related challenges that face our region: air quality, scarcity of available land, growing population, lack of infrastructure for active transportation, funding, and a public transportation system that is not seen as efficient, are just a few. And as a lifelong San Diegan and resident of urban neighborhoods, I know that building and expanding freeways is not the primary way we will meet these challenges.

Thanks largely to consistent input from neighbors like you, my colleagues at SANDAG are pursuing more alternative transportation and active transportation projects than ever before, including the Bike Corridor Projects in North

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Major Bicycle Infrastructure Projects Underway

As one of the City of San Diego's representatives to the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), and as the representative of some of the strongest bicycle advocates in the region, Council President Todd Gloria is excited about two major bicycle projects that are currently underway.

The North Park—Mid-City Bike Corridor Project Community Advisory Group (NPCAG) started to work at its first meeting, held on January 30 at the City Heights Wellness Center. The NPCAG will be instrumental to developing a plan and conceptual design that enhances the bicycle and pedestrian environment and supports community goals.

Council President Gloria helped kick off the first Community Advisory Group Meeting for the Uptown Bike Corridor Project on December 5, and

is confident that group will provide critical insight and input and ensure the project is a great fit for our neighborhoods. The Uptown Community Advisory Group's second meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 6, 6:00—8:30 p.m. at the Balboa Park Club's Santa Fe Room, 2144 Pan American Road West. The public is invited to attend. The purpose of the second meeting is to review existing conditions and explore design ideas, based on opportunities identified in the first meeting and in the existing conditions analysis.

To learn more about the project, please visit the TransNet website:

www.keepsandiegomoving.com/RegionalBikeProjects/uptown_intro.aspx. The presentation from the first meeting is posted on the project page. The North Park—Mid-City information will be added to the site soon.

Ending Homelessness Downtown: A Progress Report

Council President Todd Gloria in December announced his goal of ending homelessness Downtown in the next four years. Three critical efforts occurred in January that demonstrate progress.



Council President Gloria interviews a homeless neighbor as part of the Point in Time Count on January 25.

First, residents began moving in to Connections Housing, the City's new permanent homeless services center. While the official grand opening is scheduled for March 11, Council President Gloria is grateful that support is already being provided onsite.

Second, the Point in Time Count and Survey occurred on January 25. It provides a snapshot of the number of homeless individuals

on the street every year. Teams of volunteers spread throughout the county in a coordinated effort to document the number of homeless. Also, a certain percentage of homeless individuals are given an in-depth survey that collects information about their lives. The information is used to more efficiently target services and also identify the most vulnerable individuals on the street so they can be prioritized for housing.

Finally, Council President Gloria co-sponsored Project Homeless Connect with Mayor Bob Filner and Bronwyn Ingram. It was organized by the San Diego Housing Commission with a purpose of connecting homeless individuals with access to services they may need, including health screenings, haircuts, and housing opportunities, as well as clothing blankets and shoes. This year, 1,150 people were served, including 92 families with children. These results far surpass last year's assistance to 941 individuals.

Council President Gloria continues to closely monitor programs related to homelessness and aims to replicate successful models in other areas of San Diego.

News Briefs

Park Blvd. Construction Begins

Work recently began on the Park Boulevard and Essex Street Pedestrian Improvements and Lighted Crosswalk Project. The work will consist of traffic calming and pedestrian safety improvements including a modification of the center median, installation of new pedestrian lighted crosswalk and new pedestrian ramps, and restriping of the street.

This project will help make the area safer for pedestrians and is a step in the right direction as we pursue more active transportation objectives. The work is expected to extend from January 30 until April. During that time, one lane of traffic in each direction on Park Boulevard between University Avenue and Essex Street will be closed. If you have questions about this project, please contact the City's Public Works Department, 619-533-4207, engineering@sandiego.gov, www.sandiego.gov/CIP.

Downtown Assessment Refund Process

To the new District Three constituents Downtown, please note that the City's Economic Development Division has begun processing Special Assessment Refund Claim Forms for the Downtown Property Based Improvement District (PBID). Residents who live within the PBID and believe they may have been incorrectly assessed in previous years may submit a form to Economic Development. The claim form and more information can be found on the Economic development website at <http://www.sandiego.gov/economic-development/>.

It is anticipated that claims will be processed within 30-60 days of receipt, and residents are encouraged to submit claim forms before the end of March.

If you have any questions regarding a claim or the submission of a Special Assessment Refund Claim Form, please call Steve Bal in the Economic Development Division 619-236-6493 for further assistance.

Council President Gloria looks forward to the efficient resolution of this matter for our Downtown property owners.

The Return of Tree Trimming



In the coming year, more than 5,500 palm trees in the public right-of-way will be trimmed, thanks to \$257,000 appropriated for the purpose in the current year's budget. District Three is slated to see more than 1,000 trees trimmed, starting this spring. To see if trees near you are on the schedule, visit www.sandiego.gov/cd3, and check out the feature on the homepage. If you know of a palm tree in need of trimming that is not yet on the list, please report it to

the Streets Division: http://apps.sandiego.gov/streetdiv/sreq_t1.jsp.

Community Connection: The Todd Squad is Working for You

Strengthening Public Safety

- An abandoned vehicle was towed from Monroe Ave.
- A streetlight was repaired in the 4700 block of Adams Ave.
- Homelessness complaints were addressed in the 1700-1900 blocks of B St. and C St.
- Crosswalks and additional signage have been approved for the north, east, and south sides of the intersection of Palm Ave. and Felton St. Work is expected to be complete this spring.
- An abandoned property located in the 3600 block of Louisiana St. was investigated, and violations were found. A citation will be issued by Neighborhood Code Compliance if the issues are not addressed.
- Streetlights in the 4200 block of Altamirano Way and neighboring streets in Presidio Hills were repaired after problems were found in the 90 year old wiring.

Infrastructure Investments

- Contracting issues have delayed the painting of the Vermont Street Bridge. A new timing estimate is not yet available.
- A pothole was filled in the 3500 block of Villa Terrace.
- A water leak was repaired at the Cortez Hill Family Center.
- Unnecessary parking restrictions were removed from 15th St.
- Asphalt patches were installed at the intersection of C St. and Edgemont Pl. to improve accessibility between curb ramps.
- Various road repairs were made on Mountain View Dr.
- Drains in the 2000 block of Elm St. were cleared.

Transportation Committee

(Continued from page 1)

Park—Mid-City and Uptown. We must also continue to investigate funding sources for the operation of our transit system, and advocate strongly to our state and federal delegations that this investment is worthwhile.

I will proudly voice District Three's and the City of San Diego's priorities and concerns with my SANDAG Transportation Committee colleagues, and know we will make great progress as a region in the coming year. I urge you to check out the Transportation Committee's page on www.sandag.org to learn more about our priority projects, and invite you to share with me your thoughts as I take on this new leadership position.

SANDAG Transportation Committee meetings are open to the public and generally held on the first and third Fridays of the month at 9:00 a.m. at 401 B Street on the 7th floor.

- A new sewer main will be installed in the next 18 months near the 1900 block of Granada Ave.
- Campus Ave. between Meade Ave. and Monroe Ave. was scheduled for repaving by February 1. This work had been delayed to accommodate underground water service connections.

Community Character

- The Cavalia show decreased its volume after Council President Gloria's staff received numerous complaints from East Village neighbors.
- A Seaport Village vendor was assisted with MTS-related information.
- A large mess of trash of debris were cleared from Beech St.
- The sidewalk café at Buona Forchetta was determined to be compliant with City codes.
- A dead palm tree was removed from the southwest corner of Madison Ave. and Campus Ave.
- A clean up was scheduled to address encampments and debris under the Vermont Street Bridge.
- A tree located on the south side of University Ave. at 33rd St. will be trimmed by Caltrans by the end of February.

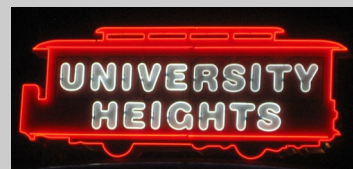
Coffee with the Council President

Council President Todd Gloria welcomes all neighbors to his upcoming community coffees. Join him for an informal discussion about City issues, and be sure to bring your questions and input!



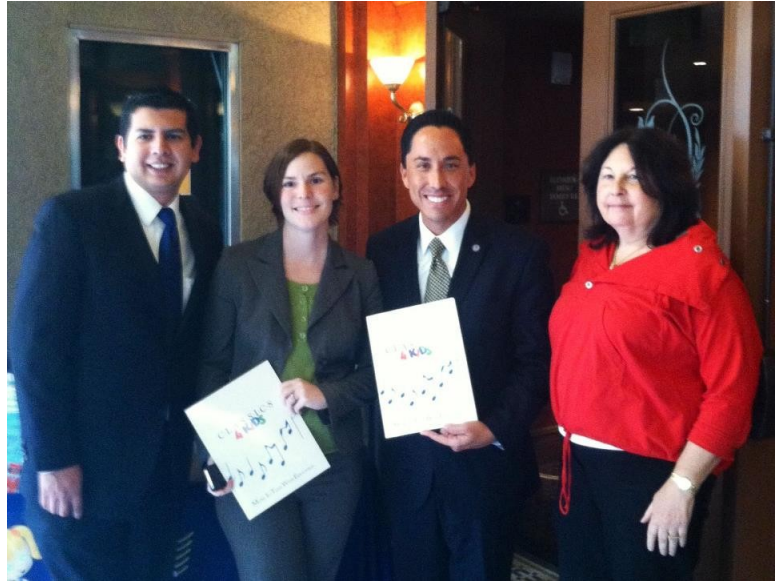
**Saturday, February 23
10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
Hacienda Hotel
4041 Harney St.**

**Saturday, March 9
10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
Twiggs Bakery and
Coffeeshouse
4590 Park Blvd.**



For more upcoming events, check out the District Three website: <http://www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd3/news/index.shtml>.

Tracking Todd



Top left: Todd took part in the historic retirement ceremony of Trent Osier from the U.S. Navy, held at the LGBT Center on January 25.

Top right: Councilmember Alvarez and Todd attended Classics 4 Kids' Mariachi Mania on January 23. Learn more at www.classics4kids.com.

Bottom left: Todd conveys the concerns of very frustrated neighbors to City staff at the site of another water main break near an infrastructure project in Normal Heights on January 28. The sewer work will be complete in late February.

Bottom right: Todd was proud to proclaim January 13 "Jess Durfee Day" in the City of San Diego. Jess has been an incredible volunteer leader for the local Democratic Party and is truly a class act.

Council President Todd Gloria serves on the following:

Chair, Budget and Finance Committee
Land Use and Housing Committee
San Diego Association of Governments Board (SANDAG)
San Diego River Conservancy

Chair, SANDAG Transportation Committee
Metropolitan Transit System Board
San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau

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